

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV, CA

SUBJECT: EDITORIAL COMMENT ON GARRISON DIVERSION

1. JUNE 16 TORONTO GLOBE & MAIL IN LEAD EDITORIAL ENTITLED "SIX YEARS OF DITHERING" STRONGLY CRITICIZES CANADAIN GOVERNMENT FOR NOT TAKING MORE FORCEFUL ACTION TO SEEK HALT OF GARRISON PROJECT.

2. EDITORIAL SAYS "...THE AMBLING STROLL DOWN DIPLOMACY LANE WHICH THE CANADIN GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN TAKING FOR THE PAST SIX YEARS OVER THE GARRISON DIVERSION PROJECT IN NORTH DAKOTA HAS BEEN A DISMAL FAILURE AS AN EXERCISE IN INTERNATIONAL NEGOTIATIONS." EDITORIAL POINTS OUT THAT CONSTRUCTION HAS CONTINUED AND ONLY NOW IN THE MATTER BEING REFERRED TO THE IJC. REFERRAL WAS NOT MADE EARLIER BECAUSE"... THE AMERICNAS DID NOT WANT TO GO THERE (IJC). IT WOULD ALSO SEEM THE CANADAINS DID NOT THINK THEY WOULD HAVE TO GO THERE EITHER. THAT THEY THOUGHT OPPOSITION WITHIN THE UNITED STATES TO THE PROJECT -FROM SUCH BODIES AS THE STATE DEPT, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, THE PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY, SEVERAL PRIVATE ENVIRONMENTAL GROUPS AND EVEN THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET - WOULD BE ENOUGH TO HOLD OR AT LEAST SEVERELY MODITY THE SCHEME. A BAD GUESS.

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3. "THEY DID NOT COUNT ON THE TENACITY OF THE INTERIOR DEPARTMENT'S BUREAU OF RECLAMATION AND THE POWER OF INFLUENTIAL CONGRESSMEN - PARTICULARLY SENATOR MILTON YOUNG OF NORTH DAKOTA, SENIOR REPUBLIC ON THE SENATE'S APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE. THE AMOUNT OF MONEY ALLOCATED FOR GARRISON IN THIS SPRING'S ADMINISTRATION BUDGET MAKES IT CLEAR THAT CONSTRUCTION IS NOT GOING TO SLOW DOWN."

4. EDITORIAL CONCLUDES THAT CANADAIN GOVERNMENT SHOULD TAKE FORCEFUL POSITION ON IJC REFERRAL AND THAT CANADAIN GOVERNMENT SHOULD SPEAK WITH A SINGLE VOICE ON ISSUE.
PORTER

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